

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on March 24, 2005, and the references cited therewith.

Claims 1, 5-6, 8-9, 13-14 and 16 are amended, claims 4, 7, 12, 15 and 17-25 are canceled, and claims 26-30 are added; as a result, claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-11, 13-14, 16 and 26-30 are now pending in this application.

Interview Summary

Applicant thanks Kambiz Zand for the courtesy of a telephone interview on **April 7, 2005**.

In the Interview, Examiner Zand indicated that claims 1 and 9 would be allowable if amended to include limitations of claims 7 and 15, respectively. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended accordingly. It is believed that the pending claims are in a condition for allowance.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner has objected to the use of the term “physical key” as being indefinite. The Applicant has amended the term to include a “physical key” as “being a physical object adapted to be carried by a user.”

The Examiner has objected to the phrase, “detecting... physical key.” The Applicant has amended claim 1 to refer to “providing a portable, physical key adapted to be carried by a user; detecting the portable, physical key with a receiver/decoder circuit [associated] communicating with the hard drive”

IN THE DRAWINGS

Corrected drawings are supplied herewith.

Enclosed are Replacement Sheets showing the following amendment to Figures 1,2,3,4 and 5.

Enclosed are copies of Figures 1,2,3,4 and 5 of the drawings showing the addition of the word "Physical" before "key" in red ink. The use of "physical key" and "physical electronic key" in the specification are interchangeable.

It is noted that PDK referred to in Figures 11 and 12 is an abbreviation of "Physical Digital Key."

The physical key adapted to be carried by a user is detected with a receiver/decoder circuit communicating with the hard drive. The detection with a receiver/decoder circuit occurs as described in the application on page 9, line 26 to page 10, line 21.

Claims 17 and 22 have been cancelled.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6976 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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By his Representatives,

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Date 15th April 05

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 15th day of April, 2005.

PATRICIA A. HULTMAN

Name


Signature